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JUNE 1948

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	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
Republic of the Philippines	IR-60-53	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

3 Jours.

DATE INITIALS

SUBJECT: Reported "Third Force Movement" among overseas Chinese

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
Hong Kong and Formosa	Office of the Deputy for Intelligence, Headquarters, 13th AF, APO 74	
DATE OF REPORT	**DATE OF INFORMATION**	**EVALUATION**
3 June 1953	April - May 1953	B-3
PREPARED BY (Officer)	**SOURCE**	
ROY B. POWELL, Capt., USAF	See Below	

REFERENCES (*Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable*)

SUMMARY: (*Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.*)

The information in this report pertains to the "Third Force Movement" among overseas Chinese, frequently referred to in press releases and intelligence reports.

The information contained herein was submitted by Colonel John B. Lackey, U.S. Air Liaison Officer, Hong Kong, in reply to Thirteenth Air Force Specific Request #21-53.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES
Hq. 13th AF, APO 74, Office of the D/I	IR-60-53	

"THIRD FORCE MOVEMENT"

Reference your 13th Air Force, D/I-SR 21-53, the following information was passed to this office (US Air Liaison Office, Hong Kong) by Colonel E. M. Blight, U.S. Army Liaison Officer, and even though all of your questions are not answered, it is the best we can do at this time. Your attention is directed to the classification Colonel Blight gives this sensitive subject.

The three Third Force parties mentioned are still functioning, though on a slightly lesser scale now than they were in 1951. Also, I am quite convinced that HSU Chung-chih's group has come up a bit and the other two have slipped somewhat in stature and potential importance -- though none of them are currently any real threat to anybody. They have not been able to obtain any financial support from the U.S. or from any other anti-Communist sources so, consequently, they can't do much along the line of organization, etc., at the present time.

General HSU told me several weeks ago at a dinner party at his house that he was certain that between 300,000 - 500,000 ChiCom troops would defect to him the moment he and his party moved into China, and that immediately he gained a few positive, successful goals, "many" thousands more would rally to his banners. I consider this to be gross exaggeration, of course, but he and his followers (many of whom are really quite outstanding) are firmly convinced of these figures. Within the last year, several fairly important, respectable leaders have switched over from LI Tsung-jen (who is still in the U.S.) and from CHANG Fakwei (who lives in Kowloon but is now practically a recluse) to General HSU's party. I know this to be so as several of them were present at the dinner party-conference when I was there, and they told me they had changed cliques because HSU's offered the greatest chance for success. Also a number of fairly respectable guerrilla leaders have joined HSU during the year but I (and I am sure, they) haven't a clue how many actual guerrillas could be rallied as they are almost all underground in China now and the organization and control is definitely on the "loose" side. General HSU told me, however, that he thought they might total as many as 100,000 but that only about half of them have arms and practically no ammunition or other essential supplies and equipment.

I believe LI Tsung-jen's organization is beginning to fall apart pretty badly, probably because he isn't here to rally them. I know quite a few of the local leaders of his outfit, and it is my definite impression that they are very half-hearted about their chances because all U.S. support is now going to CHIANG Kai-shek. They are still functioning after a fashion, though, even though the Colonial police give them a bad time (warnings of deportations, etc.) every time they get too active. Also, they have been warned by the police not to have contact with any of us U.S. types, so whenever they do it must be arranged very quietly and usually assumes the form of being a very innocuous, social dinner party at the home of some non-political Chinese friend.

CHANG Fa-kwei's current set-up is about the same as LI Tsung-jen's and I believe he personnaly has given up hope of replacing the Gimo. I have seen some indications that CHANG and HSU may still be attempting to get together and they occasionally give lip service to the deal, but so far haven't done so -- I think probably because they each want to be the top guy. It is interesting to note, though, that their individual supporters (leaders) are pretty good friends, at least on the surface, so it may be assumed that when either CHANG or HSU kicks the bucket, his former supporters will go over to the other.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES
Hq, 13th AF, APO 74 Office of the D/I	IR-60-53	

Another interesting feature of these three parties is that they are all Kuo-min-tang, their main difference with the KMT on Formosa being that they are anti-CHIANG Kai-shek and his parcel of corrupt pocket-liners. General HSU told me that if he ever got into power there would be no basic differences in principle from the old KMT except that he would install controls to guard against corruption at all levels and would clean up the justice and economic departments.

There are also some so-called Chinese "Third Force" movements in Singapore, Malaya, Indonesia and the Philippines, but they can be written off completely as they do not have the necessary financial backing, leadership or supporters to gain any real success.

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